

# Pasadena Bad Weather Shelter

A PROGRAM OF

The Ecumenical Council

Pasadena Area Churches



2006-2007

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## **Special Thanks**

We are very grateful for the help and support of the following:

Mayor Bill Bogaard  
City Manager Cynthia J. Kurtz  
Brian Williams, Assistant City Manager  
Gregory Robinson, Housing/Community Development Administrator Director  
John Depew, Program Coordinator, Housing/Community Development  
Ann Lansing, Program Coordinator, Dept of Planning and Development  
Annilyn Llaguno, Senior Accountant, Finance Department

Dr. Don Bosch, Pasadena Covenant Church

Pasadena Covenant Church, Host Church  
Lake Avenue Church, Host Church for the Family Program

## **Why does Pasadena Have a Bad Weather Shelter?**

The 2007 Homeless Count for Pasadena states that 969 people in Pasadena are homeless on any given night. The 2005 population estimate for Pasadena is 146,166. Using these statistics, we can say that one out of 146 people in Pasadena is homeless.

The Bad Weather Shelter is a humanitarian effort to provide shelter for those individuals living on the street during the inclement winter season. The primary function is hypothermia prevention. However, it also provides outreach and services for some of the most service resistant persons in our community.

## **History**

The Bad Weather Shelter first opened in 1986 in response to the emergency needs of homeless persons in Pasadena. These were individuals who for a variety of reasons lacked adequate refuge during the cold and wet winter months. The shelter was located at the Salvation Army gymnasium until 1989 and then moved to its present location in the gymnasium of the Pasadena Covenant Church. The first director of the shelter was Dr. Joe Colletti whose vision, care and energy made the shelter possible. In 1989 the shelter became an official program of the Ecumenical Council of the Pasadena Area Churches (ECPAC).

### **How does the Bad Weather Shelter operate?**

In 2006-7 the shelter was open each night from 7:30 PM until 7AM continuously during the month of January through February 14<sup>th</sup>. From the day after Thanksgiving until December 31, and from February 15 through March 15 the shelter was “weather activated”. The term “weather activated” means that the shelter is open only when the overnight temperature is expected to be 40 degrees or lower and/or if there is a 40% chance or more of rain. The decision to open the shelter is made by the Program Director at 12 noon each day and is based on the forecasts found online at the National Weather Service and at [www.accuweather.com](http://www.accuweather.com). In order to find out if the shelter is open, anyone can call the Bad Weather Shelter hotline after 12 noon at 888-915-8111.

There are no admission requirements for entry into the shelter. At 7:00 PM families with children are admitted to the shelter, registered and fed a hot meal by volunteers. At 8:00 PM individual adult guests are admitted, registered and fed by staff and volunteers. Every effort is made to keep the families separate from the larger group to preserve their sense of privacy and safety. Lights are out by 10PM and wake up is at 6 AM. Guests leave the shelter by 7AM. There is no discrimination regarding race, sexual orientation, gender, ancestry, national origin, religion, familial status, or disabilities.

## **A Statement from the Executive Director**

The Bad Weather Shelter is an amazing, cooperative effort among churches, the City of Pasadena and other community groups. The Ecumenical Council acts as the lead agency coordinating the efforts among the various participant groups. We are proud that the people of Pasadena care so deeply and give of their time and money to alleviate the suffering of those on the street.

Nearly one thousand people live on the streets of Pasadena. Evicted from their homes, or plagued by illness, disability, mental illness, drug or alcohol addiction, or simply poor skills and bad judgment, they end up on the streets.

During the 2006-7 season, the Bad Weather Shelter served 595 homeless people in the area. We fed and sheltered 61% of the 969 people listed as homeless in the 2007 Homeless Count. We prevented illness, provided nutrition and encouraged people to seek help to change their lives.

This year's Bad Weather Shelter was wonderfully operated under the direction of David Kotce, and his Assistant Directors, David Sensente and William Shelby. We sheltered and fed nearly 600 individuals, and filled 5,630 shelter beds. Twenty-two churches and/or community groups volunteered and provided 5,630 hot meals.

Our numbers were a bit lower this year than in the past two years. There are two predominant reasons for this: the reduced number of homeless in Pasadena and the good weather. According to the 2007 Homeless Count the number of homeless children in Pasadena has declined over the past year from 429 to 214. The total number of homeless has also declined from 1165 to 969. The lower census plus the unseasonably warm and dry weather appear to account for our somewhat lower numbers. We also were closed 15 days earlier this year so that our schedule would be consistent with that of other shelters. Nonetheless, the need continues to be great, which you will see in this document.

We thank the City of Pasadena and all those who work together to make this effort possible.

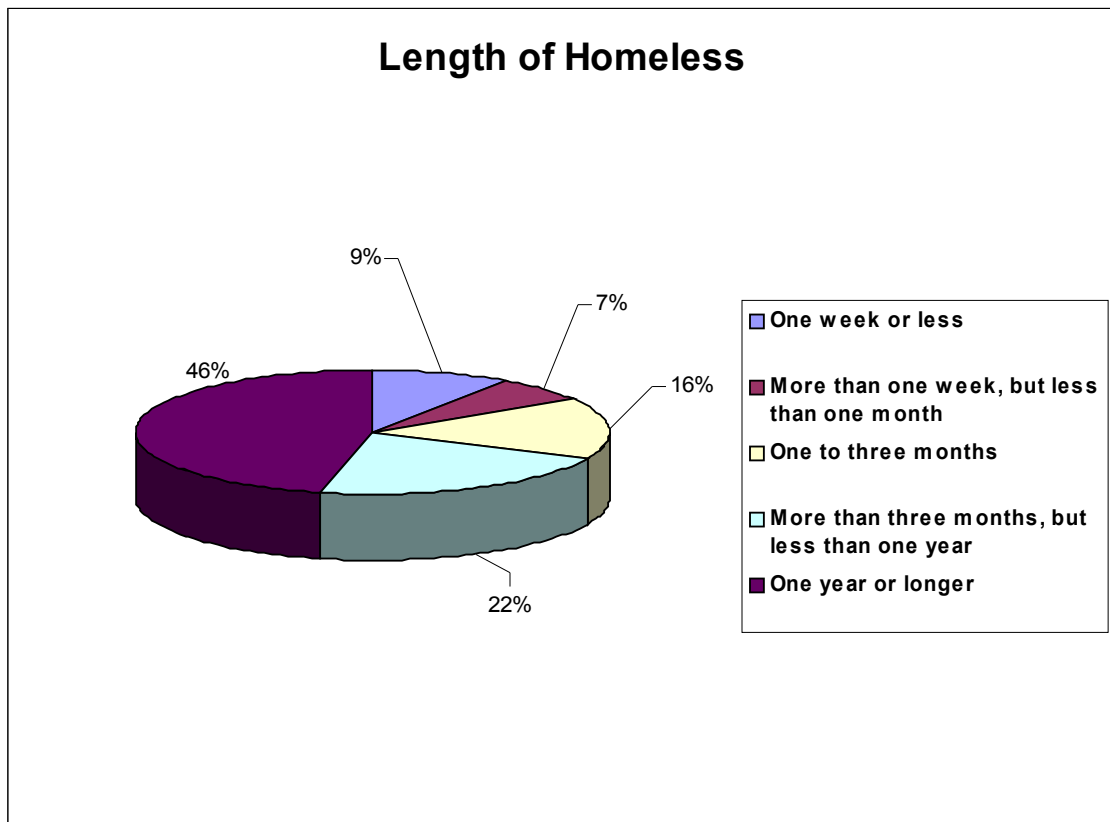
Patricia O'Reilly

## Data on the Bad Weather Shelter 2006-7

### Length of Homelessness for 443 Heads of Household

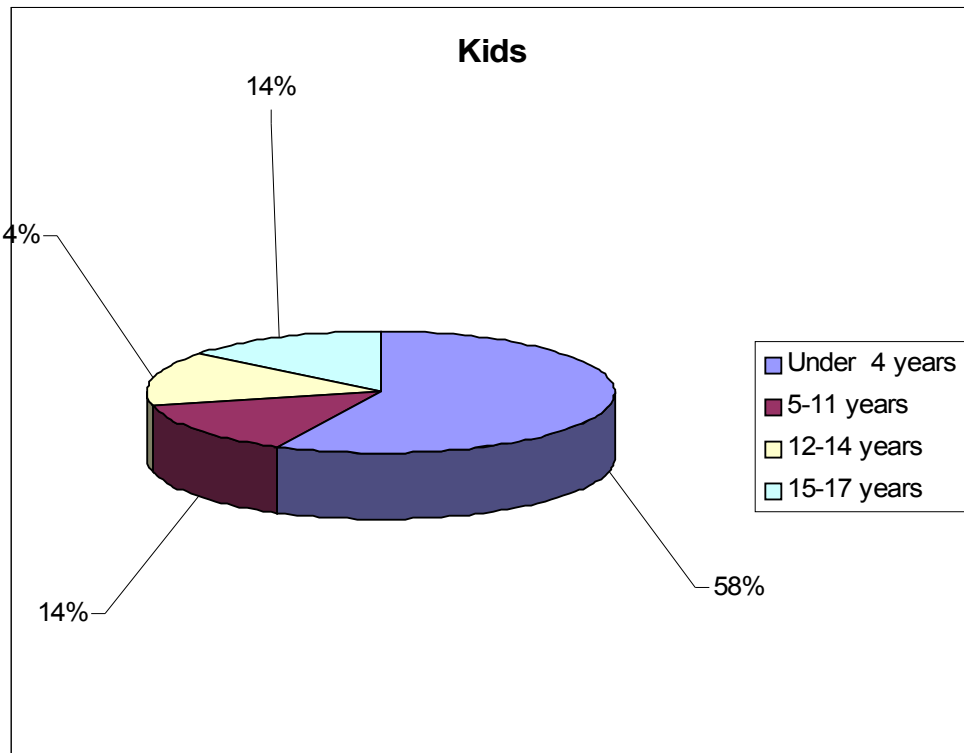
One week or less	41	9%
More than 1 week/less than 1 month	30	7%
1 to 3 months	69	16%
More than 3 months/less than 1 yr	94	22%
1 year or longer	203	46%
No information	6	

Almost half of the homeless served have lived on the street one year or longer.



## Children

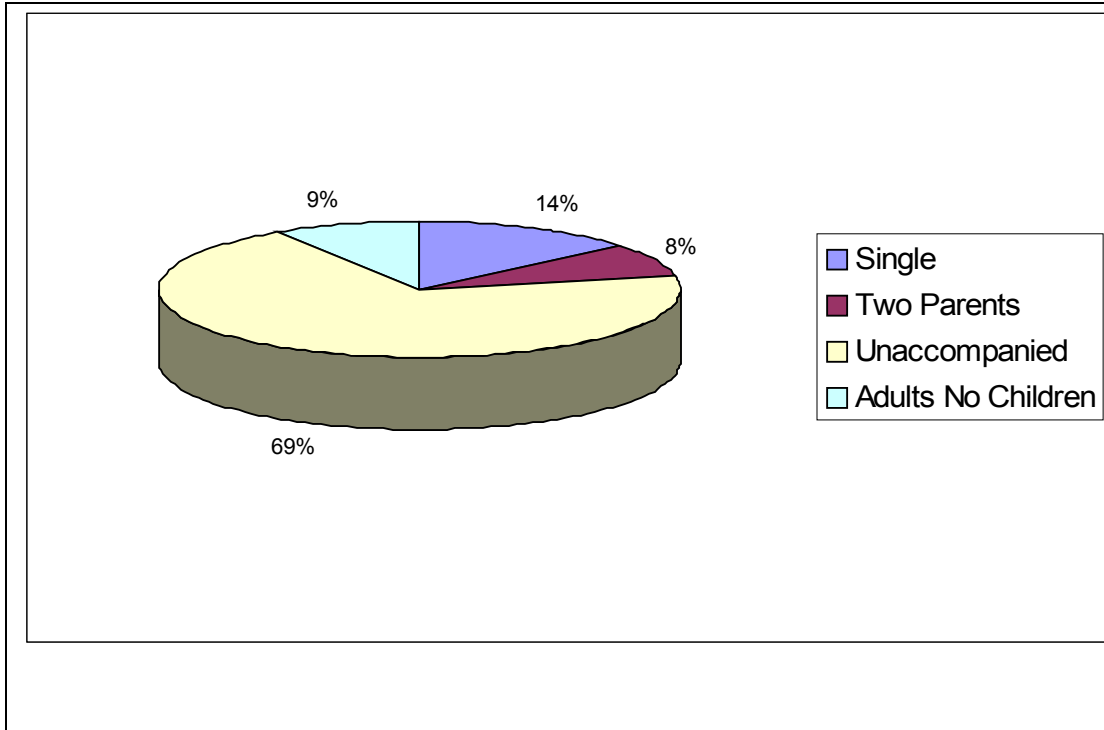
The majority of the homeless children we served are under 4 years old.



89 Homeless children  
stayed at the Bad Weather Shelter this year.

45 boys and 44 girls

## Parents



### Family Breakdown- Out of 443 Heads of Household

Single Parent	47	14%
Two Parents	26	8%

*14% heads of household reported were single parents*

## Age and Gender/Ethnicity and Race

Ages	Number	Percentage
Males under 30	59	13%
Females under 30	47	11%
Males 30-59	205	46%
Females 30-59	98	22%
Males over 60	26	8%
Females over 60	8	2%

The largest segment served is males 30-59 years old.  
10% of the people served are over 60 years old.

*Out of 443 heads of household interviewed:*

### **Ethnicity**

Hispanic	120	27%
Not Hispanic	319	72%
No Information	4	less than 1%

### **Race**

Asian	9	2%
Black	142	32%
White	278	62%
Hawaiian	3	less than 1%
Alaskan	10	2%
No Information	1	less than 1%

## **Shelter Nights**

2006-7

Shelter nights	58
Average per night	97
Total heads of household served	443
Total individuals served	595
Total shelter beds	5630

2005-6

Last year	
Shelter nights	60
Average per night	130
Total shelter beds	7800

### **Why the Discrepancy?**

In 2006-7 we had unseasonably warm and dry weather.  
We also served fewer children this year.

The number of homeless children dropped from 429 to 214 during the past year.

## A Historical Perspective

Year	Days open	Total	Average per night
1986-87	Data Unavailable		
1987-88	31	1,046	33.7
1988-89	49	2,769	56.5
1989-90	37	1,125	30.4
1990-91	46	1,831	39.8
1991-92	41	1,738	42.4
1992-93	43	2,067	48.1
1993-94	36	1,608	44.7
1994-95	77	3,542	46
1995-96	35	1,505	43
1996-97	55	2,475	45
1997-98	68	2,685	39.5
1998-99	61	2,887	47.3
1999-00	59	2,759	46.7
2000-01	62	4,380	70.6
2001-02	54	3,506	64.9
2002-03	54	3,898	72.1
2003-04	50	5,225	104.5
2004-5	57	6,187	108.6
2005-6	60	7,800	130
<b>2006-7</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>5,630</b>	<b>97</b>

The 2006-7 Bad Weather Shelter was the third most populous year in the history of the shelter.

## **Groups and Services Offered**

### **Medical Services**

Dr. Preclar Orreggio and two nurses from the CHAP Clinic examined children and adult clients on two different occasions during the Bad Weather Shelter season. They cleaned and dressed infections, made referrals, and wrote prescriptions that could be filled for free through the CHAP clinic.

### **Twelve Step Program**

Every Friday night a 12 Step program was offered for the homeless clientele, and was well attended.

### **Women Talk**

A program for single homeless women was held on six consecutive Thursday nights at the Bad Weather Shelter. During each session the homeless women discussed their problems, and received advice and support from the caseworker, volunteers and from each other. The group was intended to encourage service-resistant women to take the initial steps in seeking help. This program was led by the Women's Issues Committee of All Saints' Church in Pasadena, with the assistance of a trained counselor from the Downtown Women's Center. Because of this effort 3 women became part of the Downtown Women's Center service program.

Single women over age 40 are the least served group among the homeless in the city, and are some of the most vulnerable.

## **Bad Weather Shelter Volunteers**

In the 2006-2007 season 22 church and community groups volunteered.

Pasadena Covenant Church (six different groups)  
All Saints Church  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
St. Edmunds' Episcopal Church  
Lake Avenue Congregational Church  
Altadena Baptist Church  
Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church  
New Hope Fellowship  
Lutheran Church of the Cross  
Hill Avenue- Grace Lutheran Church  
Church of the Ascension, Episcopal  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Calvary Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
First Congregational Church, UCC  
Fuller Coffee House Church  
City of Pasadena employees  
Food for Body and Soul  
Cool Kids Care, St. Mark's Episcopal School  
Union Station Foundation  
ECPAC Board  
Fuller Psychology students  
Altadena Girl Scouts

- About eight years ago the nightly volunteer groups began supplying all of the food for BWS. Last year an estimated \$18,000 of food was donated by these groups.
- An estimated 315 volunteers have donated over 1000 hours of service to the Bad Weather Shelter.

## **ECPAC Board of Directors**

The Rev. Canon Michael Bamberger, President  
Dr. Jeanette Mann, Vice President  
The Rev. Lucious W. Smith, Vice President  
Edward Corser, Treasurer  
The Rev. John Kauffman, Secretary  
The Rev. Paige Eaves  
Shola Giwa

Elwood Hain  
Rev. Marlene Pomeroy  
Pastor Troy S. Sybrant  
Dr. Walter Wright

Patricia O'Reilly, Executive Director, ECPAC

### **ECPAC Advisory Board**

Dr. Don Bosch

Pastor Jean Burch Pastor Inman Moore

### **Bad Weather Shelter Advisory Board**

Dr. Don Bosch, Ecumenical Council  
John Depew, City of Pasadena  
David Kotce, Program Director  
Leo Hurtado, Lake Avenue Church  
Kitty Galt, Pacific Clinic  
Ron Grassmann, Member at Large  
Anne Lansing, City of Pasadena  
Onik Mazarian, City of Pasadena  
Pat O'Reilly, Ecumenical Council  
Sandy Peterson, Passageways  
Jan Ratliff, Pasadena Covenant Church  
Linnie Riboli, Lake Avenue Church

### **Bad Weather Shelter Staff**

#### **Program Director of the Bad Weather Shelter**

David Kotce

#### **Assistant Program Directors**

David Sensente  
William Shelby

#### **Case Managers**

Elizabeth Henderson

Hillary Evans  
Rachel Karman

## **Security and Overnight Staff**

Jimmy Andrews  
Joseph Benson  
Lamont Bienvenue  
Heather Bowler  
Brian Brooks  
Gregory Cooper  
Alicia de los Santos  
Danny M. Echeverria  
Frankie A. George  
Alvin Hackett  
Kari A. Herwig  
Leopaldo Hurtado  
Cesar Lopez  
Vincent Mejia  
Isabel Cristina Pulido  
Elsa Rios  
Matthew Sanford  
Mike Santana  
Jonathan Schrader  
Eric Watts  
Leslie Williams  
Richard Williams  
Richard Younger